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"'Bite your lip, little brother....Keep your anger and hatred for another day, for later on. The day will come, but not now....Wait. Grit your teeth and wait....'" (Wiesel 51). This quote from the book Night shows the hunger for freedom the characters have in this novel. The theme of Hunger for Freedom is present throughout the whole book in Night. The characters in the novel are forced to watch their family members and friends die and be hung, and the saying “Work is Liberty” is burned into their minds. This theme is also present in the novel The Glory Field. Africans are captured from their homes and put on slave ships. They are also starved and have extreme hatred toward their captors. Night by Elie Wiesel and The Glory Field by Walter Dean Myers both show the theme of hunger for freedom by having patience, hard work, and courage in their novels.

Throughout the novel Night, Elie Wiesel represents the themes of patience, hard work, and courage. Elie and some of his neighbors from the ghetto were being moved from their ghetto to Auschwitz on a train, “Lying down was out of the question, and we were only able sit by deciding to take turns…After two days of traveling, we began to torture by thirst. Then the heat became unbearable” (Wiesel 21). This quote shows the patience the Jews had while traveling to Auschwitz and while they were in Auschwitz waiting and hoping that they will be liberated.

Elie also shows the theme of hard work in this novel. The Jews in the camp were getting very little food and water yet they were still forced to do hard work, “Another time we had to load Diesel engines onto trains supervised by German soldiers” (Wielsel 52). The prisoners did work all day long. They had to stay in shape and pass the selections so they could cure their hunger for freedom and stay in camp until they get liberated.

Courage is another theme that is present in the book Night. It took an enormous amount of courage for the Jewish people to board the train and travel to Auschwitz. Many prisoners decide to commit suicide yet the ones that do not need courage to stay alive and believe that they will become free one day.

The themes of patience, hard work, and courage are also present in the novel The Glory Field. After Lizzy, Lem, and Joshua escaped from live oaks plantations they heard the dogs and plantation owners searching for them so they decided to hide in a tree. Joshua left Lizzy and Lem in the trees and he told them that he would come back but he never did, “She thought of staying in the tree, but couldn’t bear the thought of being alone. She began to make her way down the branch, surprised at how low it was and soon found herself on the ground” (Myers 52). This quote shows Lizzy patience for Joshua to come back yet her fear took over and made her leave the tree.

Throughout the whole novel the characters experience hard work. One instance would be when they were in Live Oaks Plantation they had to work in the fields all day long, “The day went on forever. The sun stayed high. One the far edge of the field blackbirds sat on the top rail of the fence in small groups as if they, too, were waiting” (Myers 13). Lizzy and her fellow slaves were brought out to the fields by Mr. Joe Haynes to work. They were told where to work by him spitting on the ground. After they were told where to work, they had to do labor all day in the blistering heat of the sun. This is how the theme of hard work is present in the novel The Glory Field.

It takes much courage to live as an African American in the 1800s. They have to follow orders from the slave owners no matter what they are being ordered to do. Also just getting up every day and doing the normal things you do every day can take great courage. The Ku Klux Klan was also a threat to the black race.

The two novels The Glory Field and Night are similar in many ways. The biggest ways though are through the themes of patience, hard work, and courage. In both of these novels, the characters are held against their will. They need to have patience in their camps for meals and rest. They also need to have patience for freedom. This is how the theme of patience is present throughout the two novels.

The characters also need to have the energy to do hard work in the camps. All day long the slaves and Jews are forced to do backbreaking jobs such as weeding and lifting heavy rocks onto train. In the two books the characters are punished for not doing their jobs. If a character in Night is caught slacking off they will be killed or beaten. However if a character in The Glory Field is caught not doing their work they will most likely be whipped.